(b) whether both the companies lost their special status which they enjoyed earlier;

(c) whether they are to partwith precious data to the private parties for the blocks on which they have worked for long, at huge costs; and

(d) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Under the New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP), ONGC and OIL will have level playing field vis-a-vis private companies. They will be eligible for the same fiscal and contract terms as available to other private companies including getting international price of oil for discoveries made in Blocks awarded under the new policy. Under the NELP, they will need to compete for obtaining petroleum exploration licenses.

(c) and (d) Under NELP, Government seeks to achieve through competition the most effective exploration efforts in the country. It is considered to be in public interest to share the available data on the offered areas with the eligible bidders in order to attract greater investment flows in this critical sector. On the offered areas, if the ONGC and OIL have already obtained some data, for making it available, the Government will appropriately compensate them for the cost of acquisition of this data.

**Use of blends of Alcohol Gasoline and Diesel as automotive fuel**

3577. SHRI RAJUBHAIA PARMAR:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Institute of Petroleum, Dehradun has recommended the use of low level blends of alcohol with gasoline and diesel as the automotive fuel for controlling vehicular emissions in metropolitan cities, especially in Delhi;

(b) if so, what are the test results of the use of different methanol blended fuel and what are the various blends recommended for use in different types of automotive vehicles; and

(c) what decisions have been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) The Indian Institute of Petroleum, Dehradun had carried out studies that revealed that low level blends of methanol/ethanol with petrol is one of the means for reducing the vehicular emissions. The use of alcohols, both methanol and ethanol has been studied using dual-fuel approach in diesel vehicles for reducing vehicular emissions, particularly smoke.

The Ministry of Food (Deptt. of Sugar) has also set up a Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Food) to examine the possibility of mixing of ethanol produced by Sugar manufacturing/Distillery units with petrol/diesel.

**Items included in the Oil Pool Account basket**

3578. SHRI N. GIRIPRASAD:
DR. MOHAN BABU:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the items that make-up the full basket for oil pool account;

(b) the petroleum products handled by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas that are not included in the Oil Pool Account basket; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) The petroleum products are divided into two broad categories viz. the price administered products and free trade products. The major products like MS, HSD, Kerosene, LPG, Furnace Oil, LSHS, Naphtha, Bitumen and ATF etc. are under the price-administered category for which the ex-storage point prices are fixed by the Government. Other products like Lube Base Oil and Lubricants, Benzene, Toulene, Raw Petroleum Coke etc. are in the free trade category for which the Oil companies are free to fix the selling price on market considerations but pool adjustments are allowed upto the refinery stage only. About 90% of total volume of the petroleum products fall under price-administered category.

## रसोई गैस कनेक्शनों की प्रतीक्षा सूची

3579. **श्री रामजीलाल:** क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान देश में रसोई गैस कनेक्शनों की राज्य-वार प्रतीक्षा सूची का ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ख) इसी अवधि के दौरान राज्य-वार कितने लोगों को रसोई गैस कनेक्शन प्रदान किए गए हैं और उनमें से कितने लोगों को उनके पंजीकरण के आधार पर रसोई गैस कनेक्शन प्रदान किए गए है;

(ग) सरकार 31 मार्च, 1997 तक पंजीकृत व्यक्तियों को कब तक रसोई गैस कनेक्शन प्रदान करने का विचार रखती है; और

(घ) इसमें विलम्ब के क्या कारण हैं

**पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री टी०आर० बालु):** (क) 1.4.95, 1.4.96 और 1.1.97 की स्थिति के अनुसार प्रतीक्षा सूची का ब्यौरा नीचे किया गया है:

| तारीख | प्रतीक्षा सूची (लाख) |
|---|---|
| 01.04.95 | 118 |
| 01.04.96 | 133 |
| 01.01.97 | 142 |

(ख) 1993-94 से 1995-96 के दौरान आरम्भ किए गए नए नामांकन का वर्षवार ब्यौरा निम्नानुसार है:

| वर्ष | नया एल पी जी नामांकन (लाख) |
|---|---|
| 1993-94 | 13.6 |
| 1994-95 | 22.9 |
| 1995-96 | 20.5 |

(ग) और (घ) नए एल पी जी कनेक्शन एल पी जी की उपलब्धता, प्रतीक्षा सूची, डिस्ट्रीब्यूटरों के पास उपलब्ध स्लेक और उनकी व्यवहार्यता के आधार पर पूरे देश में चरणबद्ध पद्धति से जारी किए जाते हैं। खाना बनाने की धरेलू गैस के रूप में एल पी जी की बढ़ती हुई लोकप्रियता और रियायती मूल्य के कारण इसकी मांग बहुत अधिक बढ़ गई है, जिसके परिणामस्वरूप नए एल पी जी कनेक्शनों के लिए बड़ी प्रतीक्षा सूची बन गई है। यह मांग एल पी जी के स्वदेशी उत्पादन से एल पी जी की उपलब्धता और संभावित आयातों से अधिक है और इसलिए एल पी जी की उपलब्धता को ध्यान में रखते हुए वर्ष-दर-वर्ष आधार पर नई नामांकन योजनाएं तैयार की जाती हैं।

देश में आगामी वर्षों में एल पी जी की उपलब्धता बढ़ाकर नए त्वरित एल पी जी नामांकन आरम्भ करने की योजनाएं बनाई गई हैं। पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान आरम्भ नए नामांकन का राज्यवार ब्यौरा नीचे विवरण में है।